

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9532
INFO OAU CONFERENCE COLLECTIVE
AMEBASSY PRETORIA
AMCONSUL CAPETOWN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1565

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG OAU
SUBJECT: OAU MINISTERIAL--JUNE 24

REF: LIBREVILLE 1548 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: MINISTERS BEGAN WORKING SESSIONS JUNE 24 WITH
ADOPTION OF 48 POINT AGEND. NEITHER OAU REPORT ON BENIN
NOR SPANISH SAHARA QUESTION TO BE DISCUSSED AT MINISTERIAL.
MOROCCAN DELEGATION TOOK ITS SEAT AFTER APPEAL BY BONGO AND
OAU, BUT BENIN STILL ABSENT. OAU SECGEN ETEKI AND ECA SECGEN
ADDEDJI ADDRESSED CONFERENCE. ZAIRE RAISED SHABA INVASION
AND ANGOLANS REBUTTED. MOZAMBIQUE RAISED RHODESIAN INVASION
AS PRIORITY ITEM. END SUMMARY.

1. OUA MINISTERS BEGAN WORKING SESSIONS JUNE 24. PLENARY
COMMITTEE TO BE CHAIRED BY GAON, POLITICAL COMMITTEE BY
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SENEGAL, AND ECONOMIC COMMITTEE BY MOZAMBIQUE. DRAFTING
COMMITTEE COMPOSED OF EHYTP (RAPPORTEUR) LIBYA TUNISIA
NIGERIA MUARITIAN, UPPER VOLTA, SIERRA LEONE, SAO TOME,
Zaire, RWANDA, TANZANIA, COMOROS, BOTSWANA AND
MAURITIUS. ORIGINAL 40 POINT AGENDA EXPANDED TO 48 POINTS WITH
FOLLOWING NOTABLE ADDITIONS: (A) LIBYAN PROPOSAL CONDEMNING
WEST GERMANY ASSISTANCE TO SOUTH AFRICA (B) MOZAMBIQUE

PROPOSAL COALLING FOR POLITICAL AND DIPLOMATIC ACTION AGAINST RHODESIA, AND (C) ALGERIAN MODIFIED SENECALESE PROPOSAL ON ITERFERENCE ININTERNAL AFFAIRS OF MEMBER STATES.

2. FIRST MAJOR CONFRONTATION OCCURED AS ZAIRE VICE PRESIDENT TOOK FLOOR AT CLOSE OF ADMINISTRATVIE REPORT AND RAISE SHABA INVASION. HE STATED VIOLATION OF OAU CHARTER BY MEMBERS STATES AND OUTSIDERS BECOMING BOTH MORE FREQUENT ANDMORE SERIOUS. HE RAISED ROLE IN SHABA OF UNNAMEN SUPERPOWER, NEIGHBORING AFRICAN STATE AND "CIGAR SMOKEING/SUGAR CANE GRWOING CARRIBBEAN STATE." HE CONGRATULED MOROCCO AND UNNAMED STATES WHICH HELPED REPEL AGGRESSION, INDICATED ZAIRE STILL OPEN TO NIGERIAN MEDIATION EFFORT, AND STATE ZAIRE WILL PUBLISH REPORT ON INVASION WIHC WILL BE MADE AVAIALBE TO OAU.

3. ANGOLAN FOREING MINISTER REPLIED ANGOLA NOT INVOLED IN SHABA INVASION , WHICH WAS ZAIRES INTERNAL MATTER AND THAT HE SURPRISED VOICES RAISED AGAINST CUBANS WHO FIGHTING SOUTH ARIVCA WHILE NONE RAISED AGAIST US AND FRANCE WHICH AIDED ZAIRES AGGRESSION AGAINST ANGOLA. RECENT EVENTS HAD TO BE VIEWD INCONTEX OF PAST ZAIRE ANGOLA RELATIONS. SINCE 1963 ZAIRE HAD LAUNCHED CONTINIOUS WAR AGAINST MPLA AND ANGOLA. ANGOLA ACCEPTED NIGERIAN MEDIATION, WAS PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE IN PROPOSED ANGOLA ZAIRE MIXED COMMISSION, BUT REFUSED TO

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DISCUSS ZAIRES INTERNAL AFFAIRS.

4. DURING AFERNOON SESSION, GUINEAN FOREIGN MINISTER YIELDED FLOOR TO MOZAMBIQUE FOREIGN MINISTER WHO ASKED FOR PRIORITY DISCUSSION OF RHODESIAN INVASION SINCE UN SECURITY COUNCIL EXPECTED TO DISCUSS MATTER ON JUNE 27-28. HE ASKED OAU TO PASS RESOLUTION CALLING FOR : (A) AFRICAN AND NON ALIGNED SUPPORT FOR MOZAMBIQUE (B) SECURITY COUNCIL STEPS TO FURTHER ISOLATE SMITH REGIME AND (C) SECURITY COUNCIL ADOPTIONOF MAPUTO DECLARAION. MINISTER NOTED RECENT RHODESIAN USE OF SOPHISTICATED WEAPONS, INCLUDING MIRAGES, AND STATED OZANBIQUE WOULD LOOK FOR ALL NECESSARY HELP IN DEFENDING ITS SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY. DEBATE ON MOZAMBIQUE PROPOSAL WILL CONTINUE JUNE 25.

5. IN OTHER AREAS OF INTERST, OAU ASST SECGEN ONU STATED MINISTERS WOULD DISCUSS NEITHER BENIN REPORT NOR SPANISH SAHARA QUESTION SINCE BOTH HAD BEEN COVERED BY MINISTERS AT PRECIOIS MEETINGS.

6. OAU SECGEN ETEKIS REPORT TO CONFERENCE COVERED

FULL RANGE AFRICAN PROBLEMS. HE WELCOMED DJIBOUTI IN ADVANCE TO OAU FAMILY STATED FRENCH GOVERNMENT IMPOTENT TO ADDRESS MAYOTTE QUESTION POSITIVELY IN VIEW CONSERVATIVE MAJORITY IN CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES, AND REFERRED TO WESTERN INITIATIVES ON RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA AS AMBIGIOUS AND TARDY. IT WAS UP TO LIBERATION MOVEMENTS TO EVALUATE, ACCEPT OR REJECT THESE INITIATIVES.

7. ECA SECGEN ADEDJIS SPEECH POLITILY SCORED AFRICN STATES FOR LACK OF CONCRETE PROGRESS TOWARDS REGIONAL AND OTHER ECONOMIC COOPERATION. HE STATED BLAME COULD NO LNGER BE PLACE ON FOREIGN POWERS OR TRANSMATION AL COPRPORATIONS (TNCS) PARTICULARLY SINCE: (A) AFRICANS HAD MEANS TO CONTROL TNCS AND (B) IT

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WAS IN INTEREST OF TNCS TO PROMOTE ECONOMIC COOPERATON IN AFIRCA.

8. COMMENT: EXPECTED ATTACKS ON US AND WEST HAVE BEEN RELATIVELY MODERATE, WITH ZAIRES ATTACK ON SOVIETS AND CUBANS PROVIDING INTERESTING BALANCE. AGGRESSION BY MEMBER STATES AGAINST OTHER MEMBER STATES MATTER OF GROWING IMPORTANCE FOR OAU, BUR RECENT RHODESIAN ATTACKS HAVE CREATED NOTALBE RALLYING POINT FOR THOSE WHO WOULD PREFER TO DISCUSS IMPERIALIST AGGRESSION. STEIGMAN

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